Student Interview

Molly-Western Middle School

Me: Hi, hi. Are you my interviewee?

M: Yes.

Me: Alright, well have a seat. What’s is your name?

M: Molly.

Me: Molly. Well, Molly, I’m Jennifer. Did Mrs. C tell you anything about what I am doing?

M: Yes.

Me: I am an UC researcher and I am just studying what you guys are doing in class. And I wanted to get some opinions about what’s going on from students. And so that’s why I asked to talk to you guys. o I am gonna just ask you some questions. No one is going to hear the answers except me and you so you can be completely honest. Do you mind though if I just record our conversations so I can go back and listen to it?

M: Okay.

Me: Okay. That’s alright. Okay. So tell me a little bit about yourself. Tell me what is your favorite subject?

M: My favorite subject would have to be math.

Me: Math, Alright. Cool. I love it. A girl who likes math. [laughter] And what do you do after school for fun?

M: I play with my brothers and sisters. I have two younger. Well, I actually have four younger brothers and sisters

Me: Wow. You have a really full house, huh? Are you the oldest?

M: Yes.

Me: Cool. That’s awesome. So you-are-do you feel like you’re the leader a little bit, at home?

M: Mmhmm.

Me: So what’s your role in the project. What is your job?

M: I am the group recorder.

Me: Okay. Tell me-what are some of the tasks you’ve done.

M: Um, well, on Wednesday, we went to the pond and my group, we took pictures. And Thursday, we went to the nature trail and we took pictures of like, litter, for our project. For the greenhouse effect.

Me: Um, what is your problem? I forgot to ask you that. What are you guys working on?

M: Um, we’re doing the greenhouse effect and how it is affecting Western.

Me: Wow. That’s complicated. Hmmm. Okay. So what solutions have you come up with?

M: Um, like take, take trash when we see it. Um, like riding the bike instead of, like, riding the bus.

Me: Mmhmm. Mmhmm. Those ones. How did you come up with that? Did you talk to anybody to help you with this? Or use the internet or?

M: We sorta gathered up our group and we talked about it and then we got on the internet to find solutions to get got help.

Me: Oh, okay. Okay. Did um-as far as your other group members-do they do the tasks that they’ve been assigned?

M: Mmhmm.

Me: Yeah. How do you guys work together? Do you feel like you are working together well?

M: Yeah.

Me: Do you think that, um, it is easier to do the job that you are supposed to do because you have the technology or not. You think could do it just as good?

M: I think it’s easier with [emphasis] because you can put everything on one thing and it’s not in a million different ways.

Me: Mmhmm. So like organizationally, yeah. That’s true.

M: Mmhmm.

Me: So how do you feel about the computers and the, and the, the um cameras. Do you feel comfortable using them?

M: Mmhmm.

Me: Do you like using them?

M: Yeah.

Me: Do you um, have you used videos at all?

M: Mmhmm.

Me: And tell me what your presentation is gonna be.

M: We are making a poster and we are making a power point. Our poster is gonna be to share with our like, class, if we decide to present to the class. And the presentation, we are letting Miss C see, so-

Me: Mmhmm. And that’s a power point, you say?

M: Mmhmm.

Me: Did you put all of your pictures on the power point?

M: Yeah.

Me: Okay. Cool.

M: And we are having miss C print out the pictures on a disk, so there so we can have them for our poster. Cause we took a group picture and we put it on the power point and the poster.

Me: Cool. Well, I am coming to see these so I will be very excited to see it. Um, what do you want to do when you get older?

M: Um, well like my, I am wanting to go to college to be a nurse. And then I want to have a side job of taking pictures.

Me: Oh, cool. So how do you think how anything you’ve done with this project is gonna help you in the future?

M: Well, being the photographer it will help me to like, use the camera more. Find out new equipment we can use.

Me: Oh okay. Have you had any problems with the technology that you’ve been using?

M: No.

Me: And if you have any problems in your group, how do you guys go about solving the problem?

M: Um, we let the manager-tell us

Me: And the manager kinda guides you to where you need to be?

M: Yeah.

Me: Okay. That’s interesting. Alright. Well you gave, given me some really great information. I really appreciate you taking the time to talk to me. Thank you very much. And good luck, I can’t wait to see it next week.

M: Okay.

Interview ends

Interviewer Notes

M was very excited to talk to me. I could tell she thought it was important to be interviewed. She gave me limited and vague answers. She knew what her role was but could not explain what the tasks were included in this role. She did see the importance of knowing how to use technological equipment in the future, but did not apply it to her work as a nurse. She enjoyed the picture taking part. She counted on her group members to make the right decisions for her group and seemed to have great faith in her manager so be able to solve the problems in the group that arose. She was in the only group that I observed that still presented the information in a traditional poster fashion, but also in a powerpoint, using both methods. She seemed to be very interested in the photography portion of the project. She recognized that the technology can help to organize information more efficiently.

Having four brothers and sisters, I can see where money would be an issue, but I have no data about her poverty level. Ask Mrs. C if Molly has any special learning needs.